

WOODIN TO HOLD JOB WITH SMITH, BELIEF

New Governor Probably Will Ask Fuel Administrator to Stay.

PRAISE FOR WORK DONE

Sending In of Resignation Is Only Formality That Is Customary.

PEDDLERS GET SUPPLIES

Agent Arraigned for Cold House Just as He Is to Get Married.

Despite statements to the contrary, William H. Woodin, State Fuel Administrator, is likely to continue in that capacity after the inauguration of Alfred E. Smith as Governor. He will do so, persons close to both Mr. Woodin and the Governor-elect believe, at the urgent request of the incoming Chief State Executive.

Mr. Woodin had gone away yesterday for the Christmas holiday and could not be reached. When his official associates at his headquarters, 165 Broadway, were asked if it were true that he had tendered his resignation to the incoming Governor, to take effect on January 1, the reply was: "It is the courteous thing for the Fuel Administration to place its resignation at the disposal of the incoming Governor."

That is precisely what Mr. Woodin has done and it has been known to close friends for several weeks that he intended to make it as easy as possible for Mr. Smith to replace him as the successor to Gov. Miller should so desire. Apart from his wish to give Mr. Smith a free hand in the selection of a State Fuel Administrator, Mr. Woodin has felt for some time that his personal business affairs were suffering in consequence of his being compelled to give virtually his entire time to the task to which Gov. Miller appointed him. He would not be sorry to be relieved to what, at best, is a thankless job.

Smith Praises Woodin. It is equally true, however, that Alfred E. Smith, when Mr. Woodin's attitude was made clear to him, expressed his approval of the efficiency of Mr. Woodin and of the organization he has built up and expressed the hope that it might continue its work.

Many complaints were received by Samuel Drummond, Deputy Administrator for Brooklyn and Queens, from coal dealers in those boroughs, declaring that the promised allotments of peddler's pool coal, due early in the week, had not yet arrived and that needy consumers were clamoring for the 100 pound lots they understood they were entitled to.

As an emergency measure to tide the situation over the holidays Mr. Drummond instructed dealers to sell sacks of their own coal at 70 cents the 100 pounds until the peddlers' supply arrived and then to deduct their own portions from the delayed coal. Virtually all the yards complied with this suggestion and needy householders and room dwellers who had been waiting at some points in long lines went home with fuel enough to keep them warm through Christmas.

The yard of Perry & McMichael, at 1365 Halsey street, Brooklyn, was entirely without coal yesterday. Mr. Drummond ordered the Scranton Lohg Co. Company to lend ten tons to the Brooklyn concern. The consignment was exhausted almost as soon as it was received, as the representatives of about 200 families had been besieging the entrance ready to carry home their allotted quotas.

Defendant to Wed To-day. Irving Berger, aged 35, agent for an apartment house at 944 Eighth avenue, was arraigned in the West Side court for the third time yesterday before Magistrate Peter A. Hastings charged with having failed to supply the tenants with hot water. To give him a little more time to comply with the law the magistrate was going to adjourn the hearing until to-morrow.

"Please don't do that, your Honor," pleaded Berger. "The fact is I'm going to be married to-morrow. It's going to be a combined wedding and the first vacation I've had in ten years. After the ceremony I'll have to go right on through, honeymoon trip and all. If I have to come back to court Monday I'm ruined."

At Berger's request the hearing was set for this morning, as the prospective bridegroom said he wanted "to have it off his mind." The bride-to-be, he said, is Miss Mary Hilda Kilger, of 423 East 157th street. He expects to marry her 11th afternoon unless the magistrate sends him to jail as a combined marriage gift and Christmas present.

ATTN EMPLOYEES GET GIFTS OF \$300,000

The Foundation Also Donated Money for Other Benefits.

Approximately \$200,000 was distributed among the employees of B. Altman & Co., Fifth avenue and Thirty-fourth street, yesterday by officials of the Altman Foundation, which was created by the will of Benjamin Altman for philanthropic and educational dispensation. In addition Col. Michael Friedman, president of the foundation, sent a check for \$10,000 to the Mutual Benefit Association of the Altman company employees. About 4,000 persons working in the retail establishment were included in the gift distribution.

It was also announced by Richard F. Jackson of the advertising department that B. Altman & Co. have just completed one of the most successful years in the history of the house, despite the discouraging prospects of last January. Other benefits wrought by the Altman Foundation this year have been the equipping of the state's medical department, maintenance of a restaurant for employees and conducting of a continuation school for employees. Charities and educational institutions without the house have received donations throughout the year. The money distributed yesterday is not connected with the sales bonus system of the store, which operates at a different time of the year.

American Indians Get Charter for Ship Line

A CHARTER has been granted in Delaware to the American Indian Steamship Corporation, with a capitalization of \$2,000,000, and it is announced that the active participants in the enterprise are Americans in the fullest national sense, drawn from the Osage, Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Shaw, Seminole and Chickasaw nations.

The company purposes to operate steamships in the Gulf, north and south Atlantic and West Indies routes. Headquarters are to be at Tulsa, Okla., and many bankers, oil men and ranch owners of that State, all members of Indian tribes, are said to be supplying financial backing.

IN PRISON 28 YEARS, IS FREED WITH \$400

Gov. Sproul Contributes the First and Fellow Convicts the Second.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—Tucked away in a little corner of civilization for twenty-eight years, living in the midst and yet wholly apart from it, William Webster, a free man, He only wished, he said, was to be rushed to Logan, Pa., where he might spend Christmas with his sister.

Webster, or "Sunny Pete," as he was known in prison, was handed his pardon at the prison gates after he had completed his long round of farewells. It came fresh from the pen of Gov. Sproul and in his pockets Webster carried \$400 in new bank notes, a contribution from the 1,700 inmates of the institution. With it, he said, he expects to take up his residence with his aged mother in Harrisburg, after the short visit with his sister.

Webster was the oldest prisoner in point of servitude in the penitentiary. Convicted of the slaying of his father-in-law in Reading, he was sentenced to be hanged. Twenty-eight years ago, however, the sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. He is 54. His wife still lives in Reading, but he declared he would not return there because of family difficulties. He expressed a desire to see his daughter, who was only a baby when he began his sentence. Neither his wife nor his daughter had visited him during his prison term.

NEW JERSEY AVERTS POSSIBLE LYNCHING

Negro, Wanted for Attack on White Girl, Jailed.

ATLANTIC CITY, Dec. 23.—Livingstone Drummond, a negro known as "Midnight Joe," who is alleged to have been terrorizing motorists in highways leading into Atlantic City for the last two weeks and who is alleged to have attacked an 18 year old white girl, was taken to-day to the county jail at Mays Landing because the authorities feared the citizens might attempt to lynch him. He was held without bail by Magistrate Paxson on charges of highway robbery, atrocious assault and attempted murder.

The negro was caught early to-day by two detectives who were hidden in an automobile driven by Edward J. Ford, a contractor. They said that Drummond stopped the car and aimed a blow at Ford. The detectives, who were crouching in the rear seat, overpowered the negro.

WOMAN HIT BY GUN AS MEN FIGHT ON CAR

One Is Captured of Two in Elevated Train Battle.

A northbound Third avenue elevated train had just left the Fourteenth street station at 10 o'clock last night when two men started fighting. One a moment later tried to leap over the gate of the car to get to the station platform. Harry Veichner, the guard, got in the way and the man struck at him with a revolver. Rose Tannenbaum of San Francisco, who was on her way to the home of her nephew in the Bronx. She fell to the platform unconscious.

The train continued to the Eighteenth street station, where the man with the gun leaped off and started down stairs. He was met and arrested by Patrolmen Casey and Riley, who had heard the distress whistle of the train. He said he was Clarence Connors of 285 Avenue B. Mrs. Tannenbaum was taken to Bellevue Hospital suffering from a cut head. Connors' opponent was not found.

BECKER IS STUNNED BY JURY'S DECISION

Loses His Appetite as Result of Murder Verdict.

Abraham Becker, who was convicted of murder at 1:30 o'clock yesterday morning by a jury before Judge Louis D. Gibbs in the Bronx County Court, appeared very gloomy in his cell last night, as though stunned by the verdict.

He refused to discuss the verdict with any one, and when asked if he intended to attend the Christmas dinner in the jail he said he did not believe he could get up an appetite. Becker was convicted of killing his wife last April and burying her body in an old boiler pit in The Bronx, where it was found less than a month ago.

PATROLMAN HURT IN RUNAWAY

Patrolman Martin Mahoney of the West 152nd street station had his shoulder dislocated and was bruised on the body yesterday when he was dragged twenty-five feet in stopping a runaway horse at Broadway and 152nd street. The horse, drawing a milk wagon, became frightened at 148th street and ran down Broadway.

Thomas J. Cuff, lawyer and Democrat of Nassau county, served a notice yesterday on the Board of Supervisors and the County Clerk at Minnola to show cause why there should not be an examination of the voting machines used in Nassau during the last election, and why the ballots in Long Beach in particular should not be gone over. The notice is in connection with an action brought by Mr. Cuff in the Supreme Court.

Thomas A. McWhinney was elected to the Assembly over his Democratic opponent, Frank B. Taylor, by only thirty-six votes, but there were several thousand between the other candidates. Mr. Cuff said, however, that his action was not aimed at any one but was

KID GLOVE BURGLAR LIST STILL GROWS

Belford Points Out Homes of Many More Wealthy Folk He Victimized.

SAYS HE GOT ONLY \$1,000

Asserts Pawnbrokers Received Lion's Share From Thefts Totalling \$200,000.

"Matinee" Belford, 23-year-old kid glove burglar now being held without bail since he stated that he had plundered fashionable midtown apartments odd afternoons the last six months to the extent of \$200,000, was taken back over his trail yesterday by detectives. Various new victims were discovered.

Detective Lieutenant Patrick Curley of the West 100th street station sent with the prisoner a party headed by Acting Detective Sergeant Edward Fitzgerald and William Courtney, Belford's original captors, to the home of Lou Tellegen, at 18 East Fifty-seventh street. The actor had reported the loss of jewelry and a saxophone valued at \$5,000. Belford yesterday "remembered" it and pointed out the place.

Peggy Joyce-Hopkins, famous beauty and divorcée, occupies the Tellegen apartment under lease, the party learned from the building superintendent. Miss Joyce-Hopkins was out. Mr. Tellegen had moved elsewhere, according to the superintendent.

Reveals New Victims.

Belford's self-confessed 100 burglaries cover so wide a field that the police have had to explore it a section at a time. Yesterday they combed the zone between Fifth and Lexington avenues from East Forty-sixth to East Fifty-ninth streets. Driving up one street and down the next Belford willingly pointed out house after house he had rifled, and among the new victims revealed were:

Lieutenant-Commander George Ryker, 21 East Forty-seventh street, medical officer United States Navy, stationed at Brooklyn Navy Yard; S. H. MacSherry, same address, of Hamilton, Iselin & Co., brokers, 10 East Forty-seventh street; Viola Shaw, 25 West Fifty-ninth street, author and playwright; Alvin Buchanan, 31 West Fifty-fifth street; Mrs. M. G. Worthington, 128 East Fifty-first street.

Investigation brought out that Lieutenant Ryker on December 7 lost two pairs of gold cuff links and a gold watch his mother had given him on graduation at Annapolis in 1905. Mr. MacSherry, who resided directly beneath the third floor, at the same time had been despoiled of fifty dollars leading into Atlantic City for the last two weeks and who is alleged to have attacked an 18 year old white girl, was taken to-day to the county jail at Mays Landing because the authorities feared the citizens might attempt to lynch him. He was held without bail by Magistrate Paxson on charges of highway robbery, atrocious assault and attempted murder.

The negro was caught early to-day by two detectives who were hidden in an automobile driven by Edward J. Ford, a contractor. They said that Drummond stopped the car and aimed a blow at Ford. The detectives, who were crouching in the rear seat, overpowered the negro.

Always Wears Gloves.

Complaint made by Belford that his gloves had been mislaid on his being taken after arrest from the West 100th street station to Police Headquarters led to inquiry. On their being restored he admitted he always worked in kid gloves, not to avoid fingerprints so much as for appearance. He has insisted on going gloved on both his tours.

The slimy Belford said he used throughout was found yesterday in a grass plot at the southwest corner of West End avenue and West Ninety-first street. He had directed Detective Fitzgerald and Courtney to look for it there. He said he had thrown it away the night of his capture when the two detectives ran him down on his dashing out of the home of Mrs. Sadie Bennett, 23 West Ninety-second street—his first attempt at a "night job."

Belford has estimated the total of his loot at \$200,000, but said yesterday he realized not more than \$1,000 from the pawnbrokers through whom he disposed of it. This money, he said, was spent in cabarets. He claims to be penniless. Because of his disposition to make a clean breast and aid investigation the two detectives have been paying for his cigarettes and incidentals during his confinement in the West Side Prison.

Benjamin Bernstein, second hand man at 408 West Fifty-ninth street, was held in \$5,000 bail for hearing January 5 on the charge of receiving stolen goods by Magistrate Hattin in West Side Court yesterday. Charles A. Cone, a real estate man, police said, identified in Bernstein's possession property supposedly stolen by Belford October 27.

Further investigation of Belford's case will be resumed Tuesday. The pawnbrokers angle will be proved, and visits probably made to homes of other victims, including that of Nita Maldi, film star, at 48 East Sixty-first street.

DETECTIVE SHOTS BARBER.

Fires When Suspect Breaks Away and Runs.

John Coppola, 24, a barber of 1380 Lexington avenue, was shot in the left leg yesterday at 194th street and Third avenue as he was trying to escape from Detective Henry Steepbaum of the East Thirty-fifth street station, who had arrested him because, he alleges, he saw him jostle passengers on a westbound Willis avenue car. He was taken to Harlem Hospital a prisoner, charged with attempted grand larceny.

Coppola broke away from the detective and ran across Willis avenue bridge, but halted as soon as the detective fired.

Charges Nassau Voting Machines Would Not Register for Taylor

brought because he had heard of loose and irregular voting and tabulating methods. Mr. Cuff submits affidavits by twelve Democratic inspectors that voting machines were placed in dark corners where a mistake could easily have been made in taking off the totals after the polls were closed. Mr. Cuff contends that many ballots did not show the name of Taylor. He says that in many districts the voting machines did not work properly or broke down. He says that in one district an inspector complained that he could not operate the machine to make it vote on the name of Taylor. The order to show cause is returnable before Justice Norman S. Dike next Wednesday.

ASKS INQUIRY INTO COST OF RAIL STRIKE

Petition Filed With Commerce Commission by Machinists' Union.

WANTON WASTE CHARGED

Railroads Accused of Distorting Labor Expense in Their Accounting System.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—A petition asking investigation into the expenditures of railroads in coping with the national strike of shop craft employees has been filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission by the International Association of Machinists. This was announced to-day by W. H. Johnston, president of that organization. Other railroad unions participating in the strike, which is asserted to be still in progress on a number of roads, will join in the proceedings later. Mr. Johnston added:

"Wanton expenditure of funds made available to them through excessive freight and passenger rates," the petition charged, railroads on which the strike still persists are adding to the burden of transportation costs borne by the public. In addition, it was asserted that railroad accounts are being improperly made up with "grossly distorted labor and other operating cost items."

Commission's Responsibility.

The Commerce Commission was declared to have an official responsibility in the matter of determining whether such expenditures could be considered as making for efficient and economic management and also for determining whether railroad accounting methods were correct.

"Progress toward reduced freight rates, persistently demanded by agricultural and shipping interests of the nation has been effectively and consistently blocked by the carriers in recent months," the petition said. "A result of their costly and utterly unwarranted labor policy."

"The present freight and passenger rates were originally determined by you on the assumption that adequate standards of economical and efficient operation would be fulfilled by the carriers. Consequently, if at any time they are not fulfilled, it becomes the duty of your honorable body to act in a way that will record the facts of the situation and effect the necessary remedies."

Condition of Equipment.

Railroad equipment has been allowed to fall into disrepair, the petition continues, and shortages of cars and locomotives have handicapped shippers and reduced rail earnings. These conditions, it is declared, are "getting worse" on the Pennsylvania system, and on the New York, New Haven and Hartford, two of the larger roads on which the strike is still declared as effective.

"Farmers, shippers and travelers using American railroads will be astounded when they learn to what purposes the exorbitant rates which they have been paying have been put by railroad managements in the last six months," Mr. Johnston predicted to-night in a statement.

"The transportation act makes mandatory upon railroads honest, efficient and economical operation, if they are to be entitled to rates which will net them a fair return upon their property investment. It will certainly be difficult to explain how, under this provision of the law, it can be maintained that the majority of railroad managements have been conducting their properties with due regard for efficiency, economy and reasonableness of maintenance expenditures when it is realized how they have been squandering money in their effort to destroy the unions of their shop employees."

POSTMARKS DOUBTED IN WHITNEY-ADAIR CASE

Experts Uphold Woman Suing for \$1,000,000.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD. NYACK, N. Y., Dec. 23.—Letters introduced by Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney to show that Mrs. Evan Fontaine Adair, who is suing him for \$1,000,000 for breach of promise to marry, lived with her husband, the late Sterling Adair, for a year after their marriage, were examined to-day by two experts on postmarks at the instance of counsel for the plaintiff. They confirmed the assertion of Mrs. Adair that the postmarks had been altered.

Young Whitney, who is the son of Harry Payne Whitney, alleges that Mrs. Adair got an annulment of her marriage through fraud just before instituting suit against him, representing that she had lived with Adair, who died in 1921, only two hours after their marriage. The question of the paternity of the complainant's child is involved in the suit. Experts for Whitney examined the postmarks a few days ago and said they had not been tampered with.

Justice Tompkins of the Supreme Court is expected to give a decision in the suit of Mrs. Adair next week.

BILLS STOLEN AT MINT TURN UP IN NEBRASKA

State Sheriff Traces Part of Denver Loot.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 23.—State Sheriff Gus Hyers announced to-night he had received information that two \$5 bills corresponding in serial number with those stolen in the robbery at the door of the Denver mint were expended Friday, one at Hastings, Neb., the other at Aurora, Neb.

In each instance, he said, the currency was used in payment for merchandise. Discovery of the bills was not made until late Friday.

The merchants could not, according to the report, fix the time of the purchases.

AMBASSADOR HARVEY SAILS ON BERENGARIA

Damage to Liner From Brush With Majestic Repaired.

SOUTHAMPTON, Dec. 23.—George Harvey, the American ambassador, summoned to Washington for consultation with Secretary of State Hughes, sailed on the Berengaria for New York to-day.

The damage caused to the Berengaria by being blown against her starboard quarter while docking, was repaired.

POLICE SAY FORGER CONFESSES. FREDHOLM, N. J., Dec. 23.—Giles M. Henry, held without bail in the Morristown county jail here, charged with counterfeiting American Express Company travelers' checks, broke down under insistent questioning to-day and confessed, according to County Detective Charles O. Davenport.

BAPTISTS SEND RELIEF AS GIFT TO RUSSIA

Christmas Cargo Made Up of Clothing and Supplies.

The Baptist churches in the Northern Baptist Convention sent yesterday afternoon on the steamship Manitowoc to Odessa 1,691 huge bales of clothing, eight bales of children's supplies and twenty-six cases of shoes and soap for the destitute of Russia. This was the second Baptist shipment of relief supplies to Europe, it was announced.

The first cargo was sent more than a year ago to northern France, Poland, Austria, Russia, Czechoslovakia, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and Germany. The distribution of the shipment this year will not be limited to Baptists but will be to all who need help. The shipment is being transported by the American Relief Administration.

BOY ATTEMPTS HOLDUP.

Says He and Two Others Wanted Christmas Money.

Because he wanted Christmas money he with two other boys, attempted to rob William A. Williams of a \$350 diamond ring, Morris Moskowitz, 16, of 55 Stanton street, told police yesterday when he was arrested in Brooklyn. Arrested before Magistrate O'Connell, Gates Avenue Court the youth was held without bail for the Grand Jury.

"I refuse to tell the names of the other two boys," said Moskowitz. "I will not spoil their Christmas."

BANISTER SLIDE MAY KILL.

Sliding on the banisters of the stairs at her home with some other children, Frances Carroll, 5 years old, of 148 Eighth avenue, lost her balance last night and fell three flights through the stair well to the ground floor. She was taken to Bellevue Hospital, where it was said her condition was serious.

TEN SHOPLIFTERS FINED AND JAILED

Store Detectives Got Five New Women Offenders in Crusade.

Eight young women and two men were arraigned before Justice Freschi and Healy in Special Sessions yesterday on charges of shoplifting. Five of the women, as first offenders, were released with a fine of \$25 each and a warning and the others were sent to institutions. The arrests were made by detectives of the Stores Mutual Protective Association.

Margaret Thompson, 18, of 14 Mount Morris Park West pleaded guilty to the theft of articles from Koch's store in 125th street. She was sent to the House of the Good Shepherd.

Rose Cohen, 16, of 634 Fifth street was committed to the Inwood Home on conviction of stealing \$10 from Hearn's store in Fourteenth street. Miss May Mangen, probation officer, said the girl had a bad school record and had quarreled continuously with her mother.

Lucille Bourbet, 26, of 315 West Fifty-fifth street was also sent to the House of the Good Shepherd for stealing jewelry and perfumes valued at \$9 from Macy's.

Fred Dubois, 40, of 280 Third avenue admitted stealing silk shirts valued at \$10 from McCrery's. He was sent to the workhouse, where he will be treated for the drug habit.

PENN SYSTEM STARTS 'GREEN CAP' SERVICE

Bureau Will Attend to Many of Travelers' Requirements.

"Green Cap" messengers are now permanently at the disposal of travelers on the Pennsylvania system at the Pennsylvania Station here. Beginning with the present Christmas rush a squad of these fleet couriers has appeared and now is offering its varied services. Speed records are expected to fall in competition with the rivals at Grand Central Terminal—pioneers in this enterprise.

Passengers boarding trains, only to remember some exasperatingly forgotten message they should have sent, now need only summon a "Green Cap." He will attend to it, assures the Pennsylvania lines. If a reply is required a message exchange has been established in the Concourse. The reply will be delivered on the train or held and either telephoned or forwarded wherever the traveler specifies.

The Pennsylvania invites patrons to make a "General Delivery" of this message exchange. Messages may be left for friends to call for, and letters or telegrams may be sent addressed to patrons by name where they will be held or forwarded as directed. On request, positive identification will be required on all deliveries.

"Green Caps" will page the station, and will also deliver messages, bags or parcels between any two points in Greater New York. Baggage checks, railroad or theater tickets may be left at the exchange to be called for, continued the invitation. Railroad tickets and reservations will be purchased, if desired.

Service can be obtained by telephoning Pennsylvania 014.

RODMAN M. WISTER ENDS LIFE WITH GAS

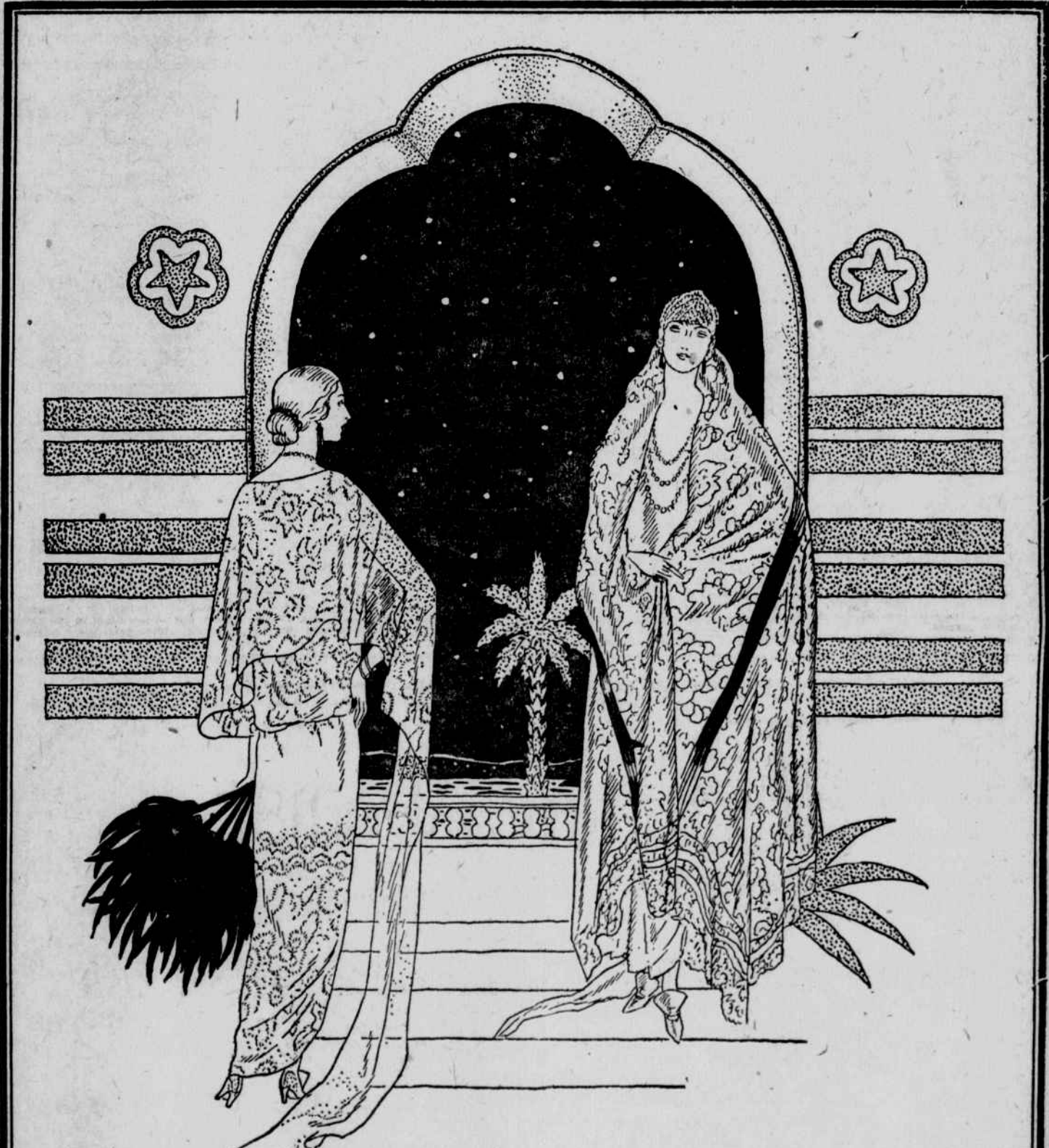
Well Known Philadelphia Man Found Dying in Fraternity House.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—Rodman M. Wister, member of an old Philadelphia family, killed himself with illuminating gas this morning in the bathroom of a fraternity house in West Philadelphia. Mr. Wister left a note explaining that he was despondent.

Mr. Wister had been living in the fraternity house for some time. To friends in the last week he had complained of illness. It was noted that he was moody and despondent.

Early to-day another resident of the fraternity house detected gas as he was passing the bathroom. He summoned help and the door was forced. Mr. Wister had been seated on a chair near a jet from which gas was flowing freely. The body had slumped forward and was huddled on the floor. It was rushed to the University Hospital, but efforts to save his life were without result.

Mr. Wister sloped to Elktion in a motor car and was married shortly after midnight on April 23 last. The bride was Miss Helen B. Bowden, also of Philadelphia. She is 24 and Mr. Wister is 31. Mr. Wister lived with his mother and his brother, Langhorne. He was a son of Mrs. Rodman Wister, who is now traveling abroad and is said to be in Rome for the Christmas holidays. He was a brother of Langhorne Wister of Ardmore and a cousin of Owen Wister, the novelist.



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The cool correctness of sports clothes and accessories; the smart trigness of beach morning frocks; the graceful femininity of tea-and-bridge gowns; the sumptuous luxury or subtle simplicity of evening costumes—you will find all these so-desirable qualities in the careful selection of spring clothes Lord & Taylor are now offering to the Southern traveler. Every need is forecast, every style trend is noted, and rigorous attention has been paid to every least detail of finish and fit.

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